



IFW 1774

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
Attorney Docket No. 24857

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

MUELLER et al.

Serial No: 10/014,796

Examiner: J. Gray

Filed: December 14, 2001

Art Unit: 1774

For: **SUTURE MATERIAL FOR SURGERY, PROCESSES FOR ITS
PRODUCTION AND THE USE THEREOF**

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

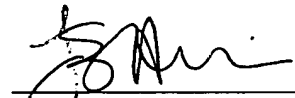
Submitted herewith for filing in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is the following:

- (1) Transmittal Letter; and
- (2) Response to Office Action.

The Commissioner is specifically authorized to charge any required fee deficiency under 37 CFR §§ 1.16 or 1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 14-0112 in connection with this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mail Stop RESPONSE
Attorney Docket No. 24857

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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MUELLER, et al.

Group Art Unit: 1774

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RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated January 27, 2006. The three month shortened statutory period for response is set to expire on April 27, 2006. Accordingly, this response is timely filed.

In view of the following amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the outstanding rejections and allow all claims in the pending application.

Please amend the identified application, as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS: